

# GEO New Energy Economic Development Grant (NEED) and Technology Grants

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www.colorado.gov/energy



#### AGENDA FOR WEBINAR

- General Instructions for Webinar
- Overview of ARRA Funding
- Important Information for Successful Grants
- Grant opportunities-
  - 1) NEED
  - 2) CNG
  - 3)Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings
  - 4)LEED for Existing Buildings Certification Incentive Program
  - 5)Energy Efficiency Expansion and Training Grants (EEET)
  - 6) Innovation Funding for Energy Efficiency Grants (IFEE)
- Future grant opportunities-GEO Website (Solar, Wind, RE in Public Buildings)
- Next Steps





#### Webinar General Instructions

- More than 200 participants are on the calltherefore all lines are muted.
- To ask a question, please type them in the text box located on your screen. Please use a subject line relevant to the specific RFA in question.
- The GEO will compile all questions and provide written answers from the GEO appropriate staff.
- Questions to the answers will be posted January 29, by 5:00pm, on the GEO website.
   www.colorado.gov/energy
- Please note: The GEO cannot answer any questions pertaining to individual projects.





Important Information: For all competitive solicitations



- Grants are very competitive! (75% of the submitted NEED applications in the last grant round were funding requests for Solar projects of those the GEO awarded <u>2</u>).
- Make your proposal relevant to the specific solicitation
- Be aware that, if awarded, your proposed scope of work is the basis of a contract/purchase order. NO variances on the proposed scope of work will be allowed.
- Do not contact GEO for questions on the RFA.
- Note: FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS on the RFA!
- Review disqualifications include:
  - ➤ Not having proper attachment(s) in GEO provided templates or entire attachment completion.
  - ➤ Not having all relevant documents signed.
  - Missing the submission deadline.



All RFA submissions must be received @ geogrants@state.co.us by 5:00pm on February 16th, 2010. The GEO is not responsible for technical or submission issues at the time of submission. If the GEO inbox has a timestamp of 5:01pm or after the submission is automatically disqualified from review. The GEO anticipates a high volume of application submissions and cannot guarantee that those sent on February 16, will be received by the GEO inbox by 5:00pm. Please be sure to plan accordingly when submitting an application to accommodate for the anticipated high volume of submissions.

When considering projects for funding, the evaluation team will weigh a number of factors, including but not limited to:

- The technical merits of the project/project viability involves maturity of technology used in project application and project viability involves feasibility of tasks, budget, timeline and resource capabilities;
- Funds leveraged and comparison of measurable merits. Funds leveraged relates to the composition of current funding sources as compared to the amount of grant request. Measurable merits relates to CO2 reduction from project and net energy expenditures. Preference will be given to projects utilizing leveraged funds as well as, state and federal rebates and tax credits.
- Geographic/market diversity favors projects that impact geographic areas, technology, and agencies that are not typical for grantee applications (some examples would be a project for a remote school district, or a non-profit agency);
- The quantity and quality of jobs created by the project.

- All Attachments are required for each RFA using GEO provided templates unless otherwise stated.
- You must provide a detailed project budget which details the budget of the grant funding request within each application.
- You must provide projected timeline/milestones for the project that begins with the listed start date- June 1, 2010
- In the case of utilizing GEO ARRA funding, a competitive bid process is a requirement in the selection of a subcontractor. Please refer to the ARRA guidelines regarding this subject to ensure that you in are compliance. Identify any subcontractors that you will use to complete the work.
  - a. What role will they play?
  - b. How did you identify this subcontractor?



## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) \*Prohibitions\*

#### **Prohibition on Use of Funds**

- ▶ According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), ARRA SEP funds can NOT be used for the following:
- ▶ Construction, such as construction of mass transit systems and exclusive bus lanes, or for the construction or repair of buildings or structures,
- To purchase land, a building or structure or any interest therein,
- ▶ To subsidize fares for public transportation,
- ▶ To subsidize utility rate demonstrations or state tax credits for energy conservation or renewable energy measures, or
- ▶ To purchase equipment, conduct research, or engage in development or demonstration of energy efficiency or renewable energy techniques and technologies not commercially available;

The following projects are specifically noted under ARRA Section 1604: casino or other gambling establishments, aquariums, zoos, golf courses, or swimming pools. Project applications for all or part of one of these categories shall be denied.



## Compressed Natural Gas Infrastructure Grants

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Renewable Energy Programs Manager

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#### **CNG Grant Background**

#### The goals of the CNG Infrastructure Project:

- To increase the viability of CNG as an alternative fuel in Colorado
- To displace diesel or regular petroleum fuels with a cleaner burning, Colorado produced fuel
- To invest in transportation infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits
- To invest in transportation infrastructure that will provide local environmental benefits

#### **Project Priority Areas**

For this RFA the GEO has established three priority areas for CNG projects. Projects that are outside of these project areas may still apply for funding, but may receive a lower rating. Projects that are to be completed in the following areas are encouraged to apply:

- Within Garfield County, close to or in the City of Rifle,
   Colorado
- Within Garfield County
- Projects located on a major highway corridor in the northern Front Range area.



#### **Funding Availability**

Location	Funding Type	ARRA Specific Requirements	Funding Maximum per Award	Number of Project Awards	Total
Garfield County	State/Donations	NO	100% of out of pocket project costs	0-4	\$675,285
Western Slope ( <mark>outside of Garfield County</mark> ) & Front Range	ARRA SEP	YES	50% of out of pocket costs for equipment	0-3	\$288,000

Please note: highlight indicates modification in original RFA. Modifications occurred on 1/19/2010. Modified documents can be found on the GEO website.



## Federal Requirements (ARRA Funding Only) Please read RFA documents for more information

## National Environmental Policy Act

- NEPA review will be required
- No funding will be provided until NEPA documentation is completed
- GEO will support NEPA but not take lead
- Main NEPA issue is moving underground storage

## Buy American (BA) Davis Bacon Acts (DBA)

- Both BA and DBA will be enforced
- GEO will support but not take lead
- Responsibility to ensure compliance is at the project levels
- Requested funding can not cover the compliance

#### **CNG Specific Prohibited Projects**

Due to concerns with achieving NEPA approval in a timely fashion and the requirements of completing projects in one year of contracting, the following projects are prohibited:

- Projects that will not be located at an existing fueling station or yard. Station must be currently in operation.
- Projects that do not receive state or local permits prior to construction.
- Projects that will require the extraction of underground storage tanks that the DOE or the GEO considers environmentally compromised.
- Projects that use used equipment. Only new equipment may be used for projects receiving the GEO funding.
- Only CNG projects that have not yet begun construction can be considered. No funding can be awarded to projects that have initiated construction of or purchased equipment for the project prior to the signing of a contract with GEO.



## CNG Application Requirements and Format

- Use attachment A- Application Template. Proposals may be disqualified if not used.
- READ the directions!!
- All RFA submissions must be received @ geogrants@state.co.us by 5:00pm on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The GEO is not responsible for technical or submission issues at the time of submission. If the GEO inbox has a timestamp of 5:01pm or after the submission is automatically disqualified from review. The GEO anticipates a high volume of application submissions and cannot guarantee that those sent on February 16, will be received by the GEO inbox by 5:00pm. Please be sure to plan accordingly when submitting an application to accommodate for the anticipated high volume of submissions.



#### Awarded projects will:

- Follow directions
- Ensure that all attachments are complete and signed
- Demonstrate excellent leveraging of funds
- Prove strong project leadership and experience

- •Show excellent private and public partnerships
- Demonstrate a high and committed volume
- •Make fuels available publically available